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*For additional news, information and much, much, more about your government, visit the ASG Website at <http://www.american-samoa.gov>*

# Tapu itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Official American Samoa Government Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Vol. VI, No. 16

## Governor tells directors he is thinking about restoring full working hours

During a cabinet meeting last week, Governor Togiola Tulafono told directors that he is thinking about restoring working hours, although there are no promises that this will actually occur.

The Governor and his administration are doing whatever they can to find ways to increase revenues and cut down on spending as the government continues to face financial constraints. With that being said, reports are that the ASG's financial situation has showed improvement, as spending is more controlled and the estimated actual expenditures is said to be \$5.3 million lesser than what was budgeted.

It is rumored that the Governor hopes to return all employees to full working hours by next month but then again, nothing is set in stone

yet.

The current reduction in hours began in the first week of February and has affected more than 2,500 government employees whose paychecks are funded with local money. The number of hours deducted from each person's paycheck is based upon their income level.

Togiola was hoping that the Fono would approve money bills submitted by the administration but the legislature did not act on them before the last regular session closed. The only revenue measure the Fono passed was the wage tax bill but the approval was for 2% and not the original proposed amount of 4%

Because of this, the amount of money collected from the wage tax will not be as much as originally projected. Also, the bill is retroactive to January 1,

2011 and there is no easy way to collect the back taxes, except wait until it's time to file next year's taxes.

The other three revenue bills the Fono is yet to approve include the increase in business license fees, a \$2,000 corporate franchise tax, and an increase in the excise tax for alcohol, beer, and cigarettes.

Earlier this year, the Governor announced that if the Fono did not approve the administration's revenue bills, the government will have no choice but to start laying people off so the current budget can last until the end of the current fiscal year.

The Governor has publicly apologized to the affected ASG employees for the continuous reduction in hours.

### ASG RADIO PROGRAM

With: Gov. Togiola Tulafono

On: KSBS FM 92.1 Saturdays @ 7:30 a.m.

# Russ Aab implements changes that aim to make things better at DOE

The Deputy Director of Finance for the AS Department of Education, Russ Aab, plans to implement a few changes that will benefit the local public school system.

Aab's main goal is to put the focus back on the student, as he believes DOE has lost sight of its main function. That is, to educate the young people.

During a meeting with the DOE central office staff, Aab pointed out that there is usually a delay when it comes to schools needing something. But that is not the case when it is the central office making the request. One of the changes on Aab's agenda gives the

principals of each school a say in projects that are funded for and implemented at their schools. This means the projects funded with grants and other sources will be decided by each school, instead of the decision coming from the top.

And if all goes as planned, all schools will be online with the government's financial accounting system, IFES, by October. This will essentially make the procurement of supplies and other necessities much faster. The process will eliminate paperwork like POs sitting idly on someone's desk for long periods of time, as the system will identify up-to-the-minute status of what the students and faculty need.

Ultimately, this will totally eliminate papers being pushed back and forth between schools, DOE, and other agencies. Currently, the DOE central office is on a 'read only' connection with IFES.

As for projects funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Aab is encouraging the use of local vendors and resources for some of the personnel development contracts. According to Aab, ARRA funds are for the purpose of stimulating the local economy and when possible, local companies and resources should be utilized instead of contracting vendors from other parts of the world.

## ***PUBLIC NOTICE***

### **To all alcoholic beverage licensees**

Be advised that the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Ta'ita'itama Prevent Underage Drinking Initiative and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

***will be conducting compliance check activities in your area beginning December 2010 and continuing through December 2011.***

Please remember that selling alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years old is illegal per American Samoa Code, Title 27, Chapter 05; Section 27.0531:

***"No licensee may sell any alcoholic beverage to any person under 21."***

American Samoa is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its people. Our priority issue is to combat and prevent underage drinking and the problems that arise from this illegal activity.

**For additional information, feel free to contact the  
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws - EUDL Program at 633-1582.**

# ASCC/CNR Brings Progressive Agriculture Safety Day to Elementary Schools

*By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer*



Students at Iakina Adventist Academy take a break from their normal routine to participate in Progressive Agriculture Safety Day, brought to American Samoa's public and private elementary schools by the Community & Natural Resources (CNR) division of ASCC. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

Students in several of Tutuila's elementary schools enjoy a break from their normal routine when Progressive Agriculture Safety Day comes to their campus. Presented by staff from the Community & Natural Resources Division (CNR) at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), sometimes accompanied by representatives of government agencies who share concerns for the safety of our island's youngsters, Progressive Agriculture Safety Day takes the form of a morning long series of sessions on various safety topics.

"When we visit a school, we usually present four sessions for four different groups, who rotate between the sessions in whatever order the hosting school chooses," said Lefua Amio Mavaega-Luvu of the CNR Agriculture Extension. During a recent visit to Iakina Adventist Academy, Mavaega-Luvu and other Agriculture Extension staff were

joined by CNR colleagues from the ASCC-CNR Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, and the group presented a morning of discussions on topics as diverse as nutrition, food safety, basic first aid, the correct use of farm tools, and how to handle pesticides safely.

"The idea is to make farm life safer and healthier for children through education and training", said Mavaega-Luvu. "We teach the kids to be alert and to how to avoid accidents and problems that could occur around them, not just in an agricultural setting, but also at home and at school. We want them to know what to do when accidents happen, especially if they are alone with no adults nearby. In addition to the CNR staff, other government agencies occasionally participate when time allows. For example, staff members of the American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) have participated

in all of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days, giving presentations on subjects including Chemical Safety and Hazardous Materials.

CNR brings Progressive Agriculture Safety Day to several of American Samoa's elementary schools every year through funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Extension Program, and the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, whose mission is to educate children on simple safety precautions that can prevent injury or death. Initiated in 1995, the program trains and provides the resources which local communities use to conduct one-day safety programs that are age-appropriate, hands-on, fun, and safe for children. While the basic program reaches children ages of 8 to 13, Safety Days may also be conducted for 4- to 7-year-olds or even entire families. Progressive Agriculture Safety Days are conducted in the United States, Canada and the U.S. territories, and the Association also sponsors Community Safety Days for adults.

2011 marks the sixth year CNR has brought the program to American Samoa, with the number of schools visited each year depending on available funding from the Progressive Agriculture Association. "Last year we proposed and got approved for three school visits and one Safety Day for the community," explained Mavaega-Luvu, "and thus this year we've got approved for five schools, three of them public and private, as well as another Community Progressive Agriculture Safety Day we will hold

*(Continued on page 5)*



## HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

**On May 25, 1942**, following successful negotiations with General Charles De Gaulle of the Free French, U.S. forces occupied Uvea in the Wallis Islands, which became part of the Samoan Defense Group.

**On May 25, 1944**, the Commander, South Pacific Area and Force, approved plans for the reduction of U.S. Naval and Marine Corps forces on 'Upolu.

**On May 25, 1986**, the *Hokule'a*, a traditional Hawaiian voyaging canoe built of fiberglass and other modern materials for the United States Bicentennial celebrations in 1976, was greeted in Pago Pago Harbor by "hordes of people." The *Hokule'a* and her crew of 18, led by navigator Nainoa Thompson, was on a 2 1/2-year "Voyage of Rediscovery," which took her to Samoa, Tonga, the Cook Islands and Tahiti.

**On May 26, 1881**, William Rea Furlong was born in Allenport, Pennsylvania. As the Head of the Policy and Liaison Section of the U.S. Navy's Office of Island Governments, Furlong accompanied the American Samoan Commission on its visit to American Samoa in September and October, 1930, serving as the Commission's naval adviser and paymaster. He subsequently became a Rear Admiral, and, as Commanding Officer of the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, was responsible for salvaging most of the ships that were sunk on December 7, 1941, repairing them, and sending them off to war.

**On May 26, 1969**, the *News Bulletin of American Samoa* recorded the return of the Apollo 10 astronauts to Earth in this way. "SPLASHDOWN IS PERFECT" Apollo 10 blazed its way across the South Pacific skies this morning to a letter perfect landing 340 miles east of Tutuila, ending the most successful space flight in history. Even as the space craft hit the ocean, which was calm with gentle swells, helicopters from the Princeton, about three miles from the splashdown, hovered ready to pick up the astronauts. "Hello, Recovery," said Astronaut Thomas Stafford. "We told you we would be right on the spot...how far did we miss it?" "You won your bet," Recovery answered. And at 6:34 a.m. the three space travelers stepped onto the deck of the Princeton. For the first time in the history of space travel they were cleanly shaven. They had performed a "first" by shaving last night. The Princeton immediately began steaming toward Tutuila. It will be in helicopter range this afternoon and the astronauts will fly by chopper to Tafuna airport for a big but brief welcoming ceremony at about 4:00 p.m. The Apollo 10 was a rehearsal for the Apollo 11 mission which will come in July and which will be aimed at placing two astronauts on the moon. During the time Apollo 10 orbited the moon Stafford and Astronaut Gene Cernan left the main space ship and hovered within 50,000 feet of the lunar surface in a moon lander. Data gathered during the mission will guide the Apollo 11 astronauts to the moon itself."

**On May 26, 1971**, Captain Laurence Wild, American Samoa's 28th naval governor (August 8, 1940-June 5, 1942), died in Coronado, California.

**On May 27, 1977**, Frank Barnett completed his term as American Samoa's 12th appointed civil governor (since October 1, 1976).

**On May 28, 1894**, Germany's Chancellor, Count Leo von Caprivi, told the German Ambassador to England, Count Paul von Hatzfeldt, that Samoa was "not worth a quarrel with England."

**On May 28, 1977**, Hyrum Rex Lee began his interim term as American Samoa's 13th (and last) appointed civil governor (until January 3, 1978).

**On May 28, 1992**, the Peace Corps celebrated its 25th anniversary in Western Samoa with four days of festivities (until May 31, 1992). Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana hosted a *fiafia* for Peace Corps Director Ms. Elaine Chao at the Papauta Girls' School. The dancers were from the village of Saleimoa.

**On May 29, 1902**, USS *Wheeling* replaced USS *Abarenda* as station ship at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila.

**On May 29, 1944**, as World War II's Pacific battlefronts moved farther westward and northward, the Commander, South Pacific Area and Force instructed the Commandant, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila to "institute a program of redeployment of personnel and materials for use in forward areas." This program was completed on December 21, 1944.

**On May 30, 1938**, Commander Nathan Woodworth Post, American Samoa's eighth naval governor (acting: March 14-July 14, 1913 and October 2-December 6, 1914), died at the Mare Island Naval Hospital in California. His cause of death was recorded as carcinoma of the colon. Commander Post was the first naval governor to serve two non-consecutive terms. (The other one was Captain Gatewood Sanders Lincoln: August 2, 1929-March 24, 1931 and July 17, 1931 to May 12, 1932).

**On May 31, 1891**, Mata'afa Iosefo "...established himself at Malie, the ancient home of the Malietoa family; and became an opponent of the Government," because Malietoa Laupepa had once again been declared "King of Samoa." Mata'afa, who held the Tui Atua title, had also held the Malietoa title during Laupepa's exile, and "was still seriously believed to be the Malietoa by a majority of the Malietoa electors." Furthermore, "Since the followers of the beaten Tui A'ana Tamasese secretly backed him as well, Mata'afa regarded himself as the closest possible approximation of a 'King of Samoa.'"

**On May 31, 1942**, Rear Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd's board finished its inspection report, which stated that there were 7,995 Navy and Marine Corps personnel on Tutuila, plus 100 men in the Fitafita Guard. The report went on to say that Tutuila's defense force was strong enough to repel minor raids and landings, but not strong enough to thwart a major assault.

**On May 31, 1959**, American Samoa's church-operated schools (London Missionary Society, Roman Catholic, Assemblies of God and Seventh-Day Adventist) employed 34 teachers who instructed 1,070 students.

# Satala shipyard will be returned to ASG at the end of the month

The US Bankruptcy Court of Southern Florida has approved a settlement agreement that will bring the shipyard in Satala back under the ownership of the American Samoa Government.

(The agreement was made between ASG, MYD Samoa, and the federal trustee and principals of the company).

Come May 31, the shipyard will be returned to ASG along with all of MYD's inventory in Satala, for the sum of \$250K.

Under the settlement, the inventory to be turned over to ASG shall not include bank balances, money market accounts, certificates of deposit and marketable securities, all accounts receivable existing on the turnover date, and the proceeds from such accounts received by or on behalf of MYD or trustee, all insurance claims and all payments for goods and services furnished by MYD.

In addition, ASG will be free of any employee claims and

obligations.

The court also approved the retention of MYD CEO Robert Wiehe to help the trustee in taking care of other issues relating to the company's affairs at the shipyard. Wiehe has informed the remaining 8 employees of MYD Samoa that the company is shutting down its operations. Part of Wiehe's final duties is to ensure that all the employees get their severance pay and other entitlements.

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## ASCC/CNR Progressive Agriculture Safety Day... *continued from page 3*

at ASCC on June 9<sup>th</sup>."

According to Mavaega-Luvu, most elementary school students welcome the change of pace and important information the Safety Days offer. "The schools appreciate that we share this information on subjects and issues they don't touch on very often", she said. "It reminds teachers as well as students that we never know when an emergency will occur, or some situation where someone needs to take the lead." While the content of the Safety Days goes further than farm situations, any discussion of subjects even remotely related to agriculture sometimes sparks students interest in that topic. "We do often end up answering their questions about the field of Agriculture, since it's all part of science," said Mavaega-Luvu. "Some students do not know what Agriculture is, so we explain where we get taros, bananas, vegetables, fruits, rice, potatoes, milk and other such products from. We've shared with them that without Agriculture products and produce we won't survive, and it opens up their minds to the big picture of this important field."

Two more elementary schools on island can look forward to their own Progressive Agriculture Safety Day, as the CNR crew will visit Siliaga Elementary School in Aloau on May 19<sup>th</sup> and St. Francis School in Lefua on September 26<sup>th</sup>. For more information on ASCC CNR Agriculture Safety Day, please contact Lefua Amio Mavaega-Luvu and/or Helen Lago at 699-1394/1575. Information the Progressive Agriculture Association is available on their web page at: [www.progressiveag.org](http://www.progressiveag.org).

SHARE IMPORTANT INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES IN YOUR ASG NEWSLETTER  
"TAPUITEA"

Contact: Harry Stevens ([harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov](mailto:harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov)) or  
Chanel Barber ([chanel.barber@doit.as](mailto:chanel.barber@doit.as))



## AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (AS-EPA)

# Plastic Shopping Bags Ban

*Plastic Free, The Way To Be...*

## Alternative Plastic Shopping Bag Approval Requirements

Only plastic shopping bags that have been specifically approved by AS-EPA can be distributed in American Samoa. AS-EPA requires the following information for approval of all alternative plastic shopping bags distributed in American Samoa.

1. Sample or specifications of the shopping bag to be distributed.
2. Name and contact information of the manufacturer and/or supplier.
3. Invoice from the shipment (when purchased for verification).
4. Provide documentation or certification that the shopping bag is made of a non-petroleum material or that it is compostable and certified as ASTM D6400 compliant.
5. Name and contact information of the business requesting approval.

AS-EPA will review the above information once it has all been received and then make a determination as to the proposed bags suitability under A.S.C.A. §25.2034.

**NO PLASTIC SHOPPING BAG MAY BE DISTRIBUTED UNTIL  
AS-EPA APPROVAL IS GIVEN.**

Distribution of any alternative plastic shopping bags that have not been approved by AS-EPA are subject to citation under the new Plastic Shopping Bag Ban. For more information please stop by AS-EPA at Pago Plaza or call 633-2304.



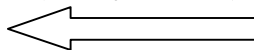
# ASCC ROTC Hosts Commissioning Ceremony for Alumni

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer



*Three former ROTC cadets at ASCC who received their commissions as Second Lieutenants in the US Army are congratulated by Retired Lt. Col. Mapu Jamias following a ceremony held this past Friday at the College. (l-r) Liko Sasagi, Valentino Pase, LTC Jamias, and Galo Tuiolosega.*

*(Photo: J. Kneubuhl)*



Three American Samoa Community College (ASCC) alumni received their commissions as Second Lieutenants in the US Army during a Commissioning Ceremony hosted by the College's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Department this past Friday. Cadets Valentino Pase, Liko S.F. Sasagi and Galo Tuiolosega all got their start in ROTC training at ASCC, and completed their BA degrees and ROTC training in Hawaii. The Commissioning Ceremony gave the three former Cadets a chance to not only share the special occasion with family, friends, and local dignitaries, but also to serve as examples for current ROTC Cadets at ASCC and young people in American Samoa considering a military career.

Valentino Pase graduated from Tafuna High School in 2004 and attended ASCC from 2005 to 2009. He completed his BA in Political Science this year at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The son of Apineru and Latasi Pasi, Valentino currently serves in the Army Reserve but will soon go on active duty. Liko S. F. Sasagi, son of Fua and Tunoa Sasagi, was born and raised in Fagasa, and graduated from Samoana High School in 2006. He earned his Associate of Art Degree in Liberal Arts while attending ASCC, and his BA in Political Science this year at UH Manoa.

Liko is currently on active duty in the US Army as an Ordnance specialist. Galo Tuiolosega is the son of Trevor and Tala'u'ula Masoe Tuiolosega of Pava'ia'i. He is a graduate of Samoana High School, where he played football as a quarterback and wide receiver. He completed his BA in Business Administration from Chaminade University this year and serves in the Army Reserve.

Special guests at the ceremony included Governor Togiola Tulafono, Board of Higher Education Chairman Uta Dr. Laloulu Tagoilelagi, ASCC President Dr. Seth Galea'i, (R) LTC Mapu Jamias, and keynote speaker Colonel Randy A. Hart of the US Army. Colonel Hart is a graduate of Army Management Staff College, Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Civil Affairs Advance Course, Adjutant Generals Basic and Advance Courses, and Airborne School. His awards include the Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism, five Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, and three Army Achievement Medals. Also on hand were Col. Evelyn Langford, who provided the Distinguished Military Presentation, and Army Reserve Chaplain Asiata Fouvale.

Current ROTC head instructor 1Lt. Filimatasina Vaiau said the three

ASCC alumni being commissioned from Cadets to Second Lieutenants serve as an inspiration to her current students. "You not only have to make it through the ROTC program, but also complete a four year degree to make it to this final step," she explained. In general, 1Lt. Vaiau describes the current ASCC ROTC program as "flourishing". "Our enrollment has increased and many who come through our program most definitely continue with ROTC after they leave ASCC," she said. "ROTC offers scholarships for Cadets interested in pursuing a four year degree as well as a career in the US Army as officers. Given our current economic status, this is a great opportunity, but it demands a lot. We teach Army values and leadership skills that prepare the Cadets for the next higher level."

1Lt. Vaiau, herself a former ASCC student, reflected on returning to campus as an instructor. "This is my first year as an ROTC instructor and let me say that teaching is the hardest job," she said. "It involves so much nurturing, mentoring, and counseling because it's a family oriented and student centered program. I joined the program when it was first established and received a scholarship from the ROTC program as well as an ASG scholarship, so by working as an Instructor at ASCC, it's like giving back to the community. I look at the cadets and I want to move mountains for them because they're great students."

While she has enjoyed working with the local Cadets, 1Lt. Vaiau explained that her recent re-assignment to the University of Hawaii at Manoa means she will bid farewell to the ASCC ROTC program before the next semester begins. "This is my last semester on my current assignment to ASCC," she said, "but it was truly a memorable experience." 1LT Vaiau said 2LT Maryjane Porter will return to ASCC in July as head of the ROTC program at the College.

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## American Samoa Power Authority

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### Notice to the Public

#### Incremental Rate Change Effective April 1, 2011

The American Samoa Power Authority delayed the rate increase planned for October 2010 for six months. However, after holding off the rate increase (October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011), the ASPA wishes to advise our customers that the first planned incremental rate increase took effect on April 1, 2011. The increases will affect Water, Groundwater Protection Fee and Solid Waste only. The scheduled rates will be reflected on the May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 bill, which is based on customer's usage for the month of April 2011.

#### History and Reasons for New Rate Plan

In 2008, the American Samoa Power Authority hired Economists.com, a US based firm, to conduct a rate study that will allow for the ASPA to collect from ratepayers the actual costs of providing such essential service to the island. After much deliberation, two (2) public hearings, continued assistance from Economists.com, and taking into account comments from the public hearings, the ASPA implemented a rate plan less than originally proposed by Economists.com and modified the annual incremental adjustment of rates rather than one substantial increase. By adjusting the rates annually, the ASPA will minimize the overall financial impact on ratepayers. As you know, American Samoa did not expect the 2009 Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster to occur on September 29, 2009, a day before the economic disaster of the Chicken of the Sea (COSI) closing. The unexpected expenses required to recover and rebuild from the devastating disaster was not included in this rate study.

The first phase of the increase was reflected in the bill sent to customers on July 21, 2010. In addition to covering operational costs and internal subsidies, the scheduled rates will assist the ASPA with its required local match of the \$6 million dollar rebuild of the Satala Power plant and other restoration projects. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will pay only 90% of the rebuild leaving the ASPA with a 10% or 9.6 million dollar shared portion.

#### Why Incremental Increase Now?

Incremental increases were scheduled to be implemented on October 1 of every year until 2013. However, in consideration of the economic hardship to the community, the ASPA Board & Management put a 6-month hold on the increase. In addition, the ASPA has aggressively worked with the ASEPA and the USEPA to assess the infrastructural changes required on an old inherited public water system built during the Navy Administration and turned over to the American Samoa Government. The incremental rate increases will allow ASPA to gradually recover its operational costs and eliminate the inter-divisional subsidies. The Board of Directors will review each increase prior to implementation and determine whether or not the increase is necessary.

### Fa'asilasilaga Fa'alaua'itele

Fa'aauauna Si'itaga o Pili ia Aperila 01, 2011

Na fa'atua'i ona fa'aauauna e le ASPA le si'itaga o pili sa fuafuaina mo Oketopa 01, 2010 mo le isi ono masina se'ia oo mai ia Mati 31, 2011. O le mafua'aga lea ua manatu ai le ASPA e fa'ailoa atu i ana pa'aga totogi pili uma ma le mamalu o le atunu'u, o le a fa'aauauna pea lea si'itaga sa fa'atulaina ma te amataina ia Aperila 01, 2011. O ana tautua eseese o le a a'afia ai i lea si'itaga fa'aauauna na o le Suavai Taumafa (Water); le totogi mo le Puipua o Tanoa Vai Fa'alenua (Groundwater Protection Fee) atoa ai ma le Lapiisi Lafoa'i (Solid waste). O ia si'itaga fa'aauauna, o le a aafia lea i le pili o Me 23, 2011 e fua fa'atatau i le fa'aaoga i le masina o Aperila 2011.

#### O le Tala'aga ma Mafuaaga mo le Si'itaga Fou:

I le 2008 na totogiina ai e le ASPA le kamupani mai Amerika o le Economists.com e faia se saililiga e mafaia ai e le ASPA ona aoina mai i ana pa'aga totogi pili, le tau sa'o o lo'o fa'aaluina i ana tautua eseese. Ina ua ma'ea lenei galuega tele, sa faia ni fonotaga se lua ma le mamalu o le atunu'u ma tu'u fa'atania ni fautuaiga ma manatu o latou sa auai ai, atoa ai ma le fesoasoani a le Economists.com, ma tasi ai le fa'atuaiga, e tatau ona fa'atinoina e le ASPA se si'itaga e i lalo ifo mai le si'itaga na ulua'i fautuaiga e le Economists.com. E le gata i lea, a ia fetu'una'i le faiga o le si'itaga fou mo le tausaga atoa, ina ia le faia i le taimi e tasi, a ia faia au'ia'i pe faia fa'asolosolo malie aga'i i luga. O le fetu'una'i lelei ma fa'agasolo malie fuafuaga o nei si'itaga fa'avaitau, o le a fa'amamā ai le avega i pa'aga totogi pili a le ASPA ma le atunu'u atoa. E pei lava fo'i ina lau silafia e le to'atele, e le'i manatu Amerika Samoa o le a tupu se Mafu'e tele ma se Galulolo mata'utia ia Setema 29, 2009. A'o le aso e soso'o ai, tapunia le Kamupani a le Chicken of the Sea (COSI) po'o le Samoa Packing ma toe fa'aopopo mai ai isi mafatiaga tūgā i le tamaoaga ma'ale'ale o si o tatou Teritori. O isi ia mea mata'utia na tutupu ua tele ai tupe fa'aaoga e le'i aafia i tala fa'atatau o tupe fa'aalu ma e le o aafia i totonu o nei si'itaga fou pei ona fuafuaina.

O le vaega muamua o nei si'itaga na amata aafia i le pili o Iulai 21, 2010. E fa'aopopo i le fa'aititia o tau o galuega ma tupe fa'asoaosi i totonu lava o le matagaluega, o le a fesoasoani foi lenei si'itaga i le 10% o le sao a le ASPA i le galuega tele o le toe fausia lea o le lālā i Satala e \$96 miliona. O le a fa'atupaina e le FEMA le 90% o le tau o lea galuega, a'o le \$9.6 miliona, po'o le 10% e sailia e le ASPA.

#### Aisea ua fa'aauau ai le si'itaga i le taimi nei?

Mai i saililiga e pei ona fa'atua i luga, na fa'atulaina ai e tatau ona si'itia le pili i tausaga taitasi ia Oketopa 1 amata mai i le tausaga na te'a nei 2010 se'ia o'atu i le 2013. Peita'i, ona o le silasila alofa i le atunu'u lautele ma mafatiaga o le tamaoaga o lo'o feagai ai, o lea na a'e ai se finagalo i le Komiti Fa'atonu ma le Pulega o le ASPA, e fa'atelelegese le si'itaga mo le ono masina ua tuana'i. E le gata i

With the rising costs of fuel and the many ASPA projects to provide sustainable services for the future of American Samoa, the ASPA needs to continue with the originally proposed rate increase that was supposed to take effect October 1, 2010, in order to cover existing operational cost.

#### Invest in Our Future

The ASPA is a public utility established and organized to serve the community with important utility services. The people of our community, who are the ratepayers, deserve quality, safe, reliable, cost effective and efficient services. The ASPA does not make a "profit" or benefit a few private special interests, individuals or multinational companies. Unlike a private company, our ratepayers are the ASPA stakeholders. The ASPA ratepayers will be investing their money to continue and to ultimately improve our services for many years to come. We can no longer afford to wait as our infrastructure deteriorates. Time is of the essence as we have been living with borrowed time. The ASPA continues to seek out alternative energy sources to reduce our dependence on diesel fuel and grant funding to improve infrastructure, both of which will ultimately result in future savings to our ratepayers.

#### We Want You To Know

Electric rates will not be affected or changed by the annual incremental change, which is set to start at the beginning of every fiscal year until October 2013. By the request of the Executive & Legislative branches of government in September 2010, the ASPA suspended the rate increase for six months and March 31, 2011 is the end of the six month suspension period. The ASPA continues to encourage the customers to make necessary conservation changes. With the infrastructural expansion and upgrade, the ASPA workforce continues to maintain the various system and services on a 24/7 basis in addition to implementing corrective action to be in compliance with federal regulation.

#### How to View New Rates

To view the new rate plan, please visit our Customer Service outlets in Tafuna or Fagatogo, during regular business hours. Also, the new rate plan will be available online for public view by accessing [www.aspower.com](http://www.aspower.com). We appreciate your continued support.

Table 1 – First incremental rate increase schedule for Residential, Small and Large General Service

		Residential Service	Small General Service	Large General Service
Water	Current	Base Rate	\$1.75	\$1.89
	until 9/30/2010	Service Charge	\$9.10	\$9.10
New Rate	Base Rate	\$2.28*	\$2.45	\$2.45
	start 4/1/2011	Service Charge	\$11.83	\$11.83
<b>Ground Water Protection Fee</b>				
Current	Flat Rate	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$12.50
	until 9/30/2010			
New Rate	Flat Rate	\$15.75	\$15.75	\$15.75
	start 4/1/2011	Volume Charge <sup>ii</sup>	\$1.05	\$1.05
<b>Solid Waste</b>				
Current	Flat Rate	\$5.00	\$48.00	\$280.00
	until 9/30/2010			
New Rate	Flat Rate	\$6.00	\$52.80	\$308.00
	start 4/1/2011			

\* Residential users will be assessed a conservation rate increment with every 10,000 gallons used.  
<sup>ii</sup>Volume charge will be assessed to Small and Large General service based on every 1,000 gallons.

lea, ua galulue fa'atasi foi le ASPA ma Matagaluega o le Si'osi'omaga a le tatou Malo (le ASEPA) ma le Malo Tele (le USEPA) e fa'ataoto ni galuega tetele e fa'aleleia ai laina o paipa o le Suavai Taumafa lea sa fausia i taimi o Faigamalo a le Navy ma tu'ina atu i le Malo o Amerika Samoa. O lenei foi si'itaga fa'aauau o le a mafaia ai e le ASPA ona aoina atoa le tau o ana galuega fa'atino ma fa'atutaina ai le fetufaina o tupe fa'asoaosi i totonu lava o le matagaluega. O le a taga'i toto'a le Komiti Fa'atonu i nisi si'itaga fou a'o le'i fa'atinoina, ina ia iloilo lelei pe tatau ma talafeagai ia si'itaga pe leai fo'i.

Ona o le si'isi'i pea i luga o le tau o le suau'u ma le tele o ana galuega auā le fa'aleleia o le tautua mo le manuia o Amerika Samoa, e matua mana'omia e le ASPA le fa'atinoina o nei si'itaga fuafuaina ia Oketopa 1, 2010 mo le fa'atupaina o ana galuega fai.

#### Fa'asao i lo tatou Lumana'i

O le ASPA o le kamupani eletise a tagata lautele ma na fa'amaopopoina ia tautuaina le atunu'u e ala i auaunaga tāua eseese. O tagata uma ua aumau i lenei Teritori, o i latou ia o pa'aga totogi pili ale ASPA ma e tatau ona maua e latou ni tautua lelei, saogalemu, fa'atutaina, talafeagai ma tautua. E leai se "tupe fa'asili" e maua e le ASPA po'o se manuia mo se vaega fa'apitoa, po'o ni tagata taito'atasi po'o ni kamupani tetele. E ese mai ai i le fa'atulaina o pisinisi tua, o i latou ua fa'atua o "pa'aga totogi pili" a le ASPA, o i latou ia e ona mori le ASPA. O pa'aga totogi pili ia o lo'o tele lo latou sao i le fa'aauauna ma le fa'aleleia o nei tautua eseese mo tausaga a sau. Ua le tatau ona tatou nofoa'i pea a'o fa'i ifo le lelei ma le tau o a tatou mea totino (pei o fale, afi, masini, laina o eletise ma paipa vai). Ua matua tāua tele le taimi ae maise o le taimi nei. "E le fa'atali le taimi po'o le tai i se Tautaiti" ...auā ua leva ona ta nonō i le taimi ona o isi foi galuega tāua. O lo'o fa'aauau pea ona saili e le ASPA isi auala mea metotia fou e fa'aititia ai le fa'alagolago pea i le suau'u ma tupe fa'ameaaloa mai le Malo Tele e fa'aleleia ai mea totino, a'o isi foi ia auala e maua ai se fa'asiliga lelei i le lumana'i mo a tatou pa'aga totogi pili.

#### Matou te Mana'o ia e Ilao

O le a le fa'aauauna le si'itaga na fa'atulaina mo le Eletise po'o le Uila lea na tatau ona faia ia Oketopa 1 o tausaga ta'itasi e amata mai i le tausaga ua tuana'i 2010 se'ia oo atu ia Oketopa 1, 2013. Ona o se talosaga na tu'uina mai e le Ofisa o le Kovana ma le Fono Faitulafono ia Setema 2010, na fa'aagafua ai e le ASPA lona si'itaga fa'aauau mo le ono masina e fa'agata ia Mati 31, 2011. O lo'o fa'aauau pea ona faufautua le ASPA i ana pa'aga totogi pili, ina ia faia auala e fa'asao ai le uila ma le suavai. O lo'o galulue malosi le aufaigaluega a le ASPA e fa'aleleia ana meatotino, ma tautua pea i le 24 itula i le aso 7 aso i le vaiaso, ina ia maua pea e o tatou tagata lautele ana tautua masani, ae maise o le uia o auala pea ona mana'omia e le tulafono a le Feterale.

#### E fa'apefa ona va'ai Si'itaga Fou

Ina ia silasila i fuafuaga mo si'itaga fou, fa'amolemole fa'afeso'ota'i ane le tatou Ofisa Totogi Pili i Tafuna po'o Fagatogo i taimi faigaluega. E le gata i lea, ae o le a mafaia ona silasila i ai i le Upega-Tafa'ilagi: [www.aspower.com](http://www.aspower.com). Fa'afetai tele mo lou lagolagoina o la matou tautua.